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The POULTRY and EGG SITUATION

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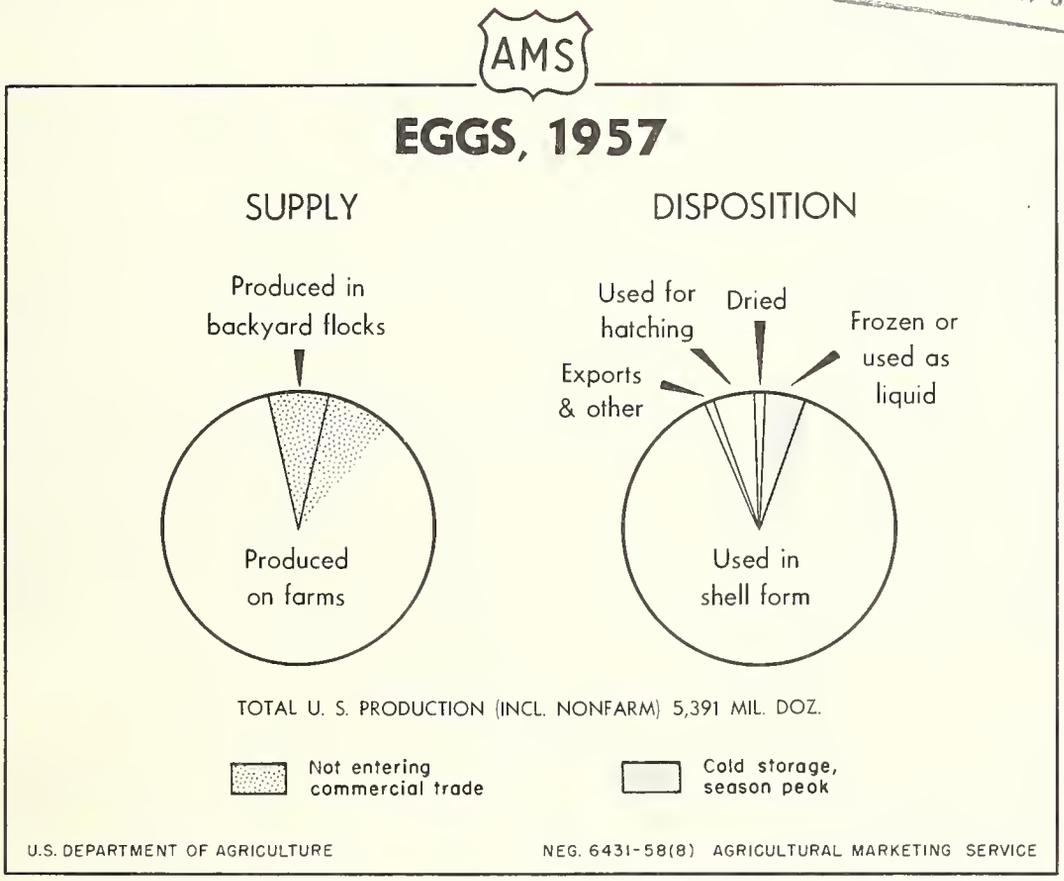

Use of fresh eggs at the family table is the largest outlet for U. S. production. Because a large part of this demand is from farm families who produce eggs, and from keepers of backyard flocks, about 15 percent of the eggs eaten never enter commercial trade.

In addition, the eggs used for hatchings (about 5 percent of production) and those broken commercially for use as liquid, dried, or frozen egg (about 6 percent) flow through different market channels than those used for table eggs.

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THE POULTRY AND EGG SITUATION AT A GLANCE

Item	Unit	Month or date	Average 1947-56	1957	1958	Month or date	Average 1947-56	1957	1958	Comments on current situation
EGGS										
Farm production	Mil. doz.	July	368.5	396.0	406.2	Aug.	337.6	380.8	389.4	
Average number of layers on farms	Millions	July	282.8	277.3	278.5	Aug.	282.9	283.3	283.2	On September 1, remained below 1957
Rate of lay per layer	Eggs	July	15.6	17.1	17.5	Aug.	14.3	16.1	16.5	
Apparent disappearance shell eggs per civilian	Eggs	June	28.0	25.5	1/24.7	July	28.5	26.4	1/25.9	Decline from last year reflects supply change, and larger population this year
Frozen egg production	Mil. lb.	June	46.3	51.9	56.7	July	20.1	30.2	32.1	
Dried egg production	Mil. lb.	June	6.2	3.8	2.8	July	4.7	2.9	2.2	
Price received by farmers	Ct.per doz.	July	41.5	32.0	35.9	Aug.	44.5	36.4	36.9	Prices rose sharply in late August and early September
Price received by farmers as a percentage of parity	Percent	July	86	68	77	Aug.	86	71	72	
Retail price (AMS)	Ct.per doz.	June	58.7	46.0	52.9	July	56.8	51.9	55.3	
Egg-feed price ratio	Lb. feed	July	10.7	9.2	10.3	Aug.	11.5	10.5	10.5	
Stocks:										
Shell	Thous.cases	Aug. 1	2,603	1,507	727	Sept. 1	2,075	1,174	506	Shell egg stocks record-low for the month
Frozen	Mil. lb.	Aug. 1	190.2	176.7	139.8	Sept. 1	173.3	164.7	133.9	
Chicks hatched by commercial hatcheries	Millions	June	124.7	174.7	216.2	July	90.6	155.3	187.4	
Pullets not yet of laying age on farms	Millions	Aug. 1	247.8	165.9	181.5	Sept. 1	203.6	132.0	145.0	
Farm price of poultry ration	Dol.per cwt	July	3.89	3.47	3.50	Aug.	3.87	3.47	3.50	
POULTRY										
Price received by farmers for chickens, live										
Broilers	Ct. per lb.	July	28.6	21.4	19.4	Aug.	29.1	20.7	18.0	Price broke earlier than usual
Farm chickens	Ct. per lb.	July	22.9	13.2	14.9	Aug.	22.8	13.9	14.3	
All chickens	Ct. per lb.	July	26.2	20.2	18.7	Aug.	26.0	19.5	17.4	
Price received by farmers for all chickens as a percentage of parity	Percent	July	88	71	65	Aug.	87	68	61	
Retail price of broilers and fryers ready-to-cook (AMS)	Ct. per lb.	June	—	49.3	50.0	July	—	50.8	49.7	
Price received by farmers for turkeys, live	Ct. per lb.	July	31.5	21.8	24.6	Aug.	32.8	22.7	24.9	
Stocks:										
Poultry, excluding turkeys	Mil. lb.	Aug. 1	79.1	95.1	67.9	Sept. 1	90.1	100.2	92.0	
Turkeys	Mil. lb.	Aug. 1	39.6	90.0	79.2	Sept. 1	38.3	101.9	102.1	Higher than on this date in any previous year
Broiler-feed price ratio	Lb. feed	July	5.4	4.4	3.8	Aug.	5.5	4.2	3.5	
Turkey-feed price ratio	Lb. feed	July	8.3	6.3	7.0	Aug.	8.5	6.5	7.1	
Average weekly placement of chicks in 22 important States	Millions	July	—	28.8	33.3	Aug.	—	26.4	29.7	Successively narrower margins above 1957

1/ Partly estimated.

THE POULTRY AND EGG SITUATION

Approved by the Outlook and Situation Board, September 15, 1958

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SUMMARY

Market supplies of eggs and poultry will be larger this fall than last. Any further seasonal increase in egg prices is likely to be small because the laying flock will be up from last year and rates of lay per bird will be higher. The seasonal price rise for turkeys also is likely to be limited because of a large late hatch of poults and big storage supplies. Continued heavy production and low prices for broilers are in prospect.

Average egg prices rose only slightly from late spring to late August, but since then they have taken a considerable spurt. Prices of fine quality large eggs in early September were the highest since last November. In mid-August, U. S. average egg prices to farmers were 36.9 cents per dozen, only 3 cents above the season's low in June. By early September wholesale quotations for large eggs had risen further and were above 1957. The prospects for a price rise in the next month or so are best for large eggs of A and AA quality.

The number of chickens raised for laying flock replacement this year increased 10 percent over 1957. This is the principal factor in the prospect for large egg production. The flock of potential layers will probably be 2 to 4 percent larger on January 1, 1959 than a year earlier, when 352 million birds were on hand. On September 1 this year the laying flock was 1 percent smaller than last year, mostly because of heavier marketings of hens from the laying flock. The new flock is likely to lay at a higher rate per bird this fall than last. On September 1 the rate of 51.6 eggs per 100 birds was 2 percent above the previous September.

The 78 million turkeys being raised this year are 4 percent fewer than last year's record 81 million. Currently, turkey prices are slightly higher than last year; this year at mid-August, prices to farmers averaged 24.9 cents per pound, against 22.7 cents last August. Large stocks of turkeys are in storage -- 102 million pounds on September 1. This is a larger volume for that date than any other year, including 1957. Stocks in storage will tend to hold this year's price close to that of last year, with only a small rise from the present time until the holidays. The U. S. Department of Agriculture began buying turkeys for school lunches in late July.

Broiler production in 1958 will likely be about 16 percent above the 1957 production of 1.5 billion birds. In the first half of the year, prices averaged above 1957 because prices of red meats were high. Also, heavier than usual mortality in broiler flocks resulted in a smaller increase in market supplies than would have been indicated by earlier placement figures. Successive increases in monthly broiler production brought a price break in early summer. The mid-August price to producers was 18.0 cents per pound, compared with 21.0 cents two months earlier and 20.7 a year earlier. The number of broilers growing in early September, plus the number of eggs in incubators, was 12 percent more than last year, indicating abundant supplies through 1958. The potential supply of broiler hatching eggs and chicks, reaching into 1959, also is large.

Review and Outlook

Egg Prices Lag During Summer; Top Grades Rise since mid-August

Egg prices were sluggish through most of the summer, with hardly any seasonal rise between late spring and early August. As a result, most wholesale quotations in August were either about the same as last year, or slightly below, whereas earlier in the season 1958 prices had been well above 1957. Through mid-August the U. S. average price to farmers for eggs remained above 1957 by a small margin. The August 1958 price of 36.9 cents per dozen exceeded that of the year before by a half cent.

Since mid-August, wholesale egg price quotations have picked up noticeably, particularly for the larger sizes. By late August, this pickup raised prices to the highest levels since March, but they remained below year-ago levels. Since then, prices have risen further, and many of the quotations in table 1 for the most recent available data are above a year ago. In the remaining months, 1958 prices are not likely to rise further above year-ago prices for any sustained period. In June, trucklots of large white eggs F.O.B. Chicago reached a low of 33 cents per dozen. From the beginning of July through early August they fluctuated between 37 and 42 cents, and in mid-September they were 51 cents.

Earlier this year the price pattern had shown considerable similarity to the unusual years of 1954 and 1956. In these years, eggs in general showed hardly any of the usual seasonal price variation, that is, lowest in the spring and highest in the fall. Seasonal price variation is discussed elsewhere in this Situation. In 1954 and 1956, prices of some individual grades of eggs rose in the fall, but the average of all sizes and grades sold by farmers remained at a lower level than earlier in the year.

While prices of fine large eggs in early September may have been several cents short of their peak, only a limited further rise is likely for the U. S. average. With prospective large production of eggs in coming months and the increasing proportion of small sizes laid by pullets, it is unlikely that mid-month average prices after September this year will rise much if any above the 40.8 cents per dozen of mid-March. The peak mid-month price last year was 45.4 cents in mid-November, but prices earlier in the year were so low that the annual average was only 35.2 cents per dozen, lowest since 1944. The annual average this year may be as much as 3 cents per dozen higher, owing to more favorable prices during the spring (table 2).

Egg future contract prices moved over a wide range during the summer. During the weeks that wholesale egg prices were standing still, prices for September and October contracts were declining steadily — from 37.70 cents per dozen (October contracts) on June 1 to a low of 31.70 cents on August 18. But when the better grades of eggs began to pick up in late August, future contracts also went up, and on September 11 the October contract was 39.45 cents per dozen.

Future contract prices are sensitive to the size of the remaining stocks of shell eggs in storage, as well as to the level of fresh egg prices. While the weekly reductions of stocks have been smaller than those of last year, the peak stocks also were smaller (table 3). In view of the prospective larger flock during the remainder of 1958 and into 1959, and prospective increased monthly production over last year, the reduced supply of shell eggs in storage will not become critical in shell egg distribution.

Stocks of stored shell eggs are now even lower than the September 1 figure of 506 thousand cases. On September 11 there were 7,004 outstanding future contracts of 500 cases each, amounting to about 3.5 million cases of eggs. An excess of contracts over stocks is the usual situation, but the record-low stocks this year aggravate that disparity.

More Layers, Higher Rate of Lay;
Egg Output to be Up 3-5 Percent
in rest of 1958

Rate of lay has been above last year since May, and soon the number of layers on U. S. farms will be above last year. For both of these factors, the spread of 1958 above 1957 will widen in the later months of the year, with the result that monthly egg production will top that of a year ago by increasing margins. In the first half of 1959 monthly egg production is also likely to exceed that of January-June, 1958.

On September 1, the 287 million layers on farms were slightly below a year earlier (table 5), when 289 million were on hand, but the large number of young pullets will soon raise the total number of layers to a level above last year. The 145 million pullets not yet of laying age on September 1 were 10 percent — 13 million pullets — more than on September 1, 1957 (table 8).

The 1958-59 flock will have a larger proportion of pullets than its predecessor flock, and that fact will likely reinforce the trend toward higher rate of lay. In the past, this trend has been sharpest from August through January.

In the next few months, the combined effects of larger flock and increased rate of lay may result in monthly production 3 to 5 percent above corresponding 1957 months, assuming the size of the laying flock moves toward a January 1, 1959 level about 2 to 4 percent above the year before.

10 Percent More Chickens Raised
for Layers: Late Hatch

As a result of the late-season spurt in hatchings, the replacement chickens raised this year will be up about 10 percent from 1957 -- 436 million, compared with 397 million last year. Because sexed pullets comprise about 60 percent of the chicks farmers buy for replacement, pullets are around three-fourths of the birds in this number raised. On September 1 there were 145 million pullets not yet of laying age, 10 percent more than last September.

Pullets of earlier hatches are already laying -- they are included among the layers on hand.

All regions share in the increase in chickens raised, but, since birds raised to lay broiler hatching eggs fall in this category, several Southern States show the sharpest percentage increases. Three States -- Arkansas, Alabama and Georgia -- show increases above 25 percent each in chickens raised. Much of the increase there is probably for hatching-egg flocks for broiler chicks. Changes by geographic divisions -- all increases -- range from 5 percent for the Northeast to 14 percent for the South Atlantic States (table 8).

The monthly distribution of hatchings continued past patterns of an April peak. Outputs in March and May were nearly as large, and there were notable increases from the year before in May and later. In May-July 38 million more egg-type chicks were hatched than in the same months in 1957, with respective monthly increases of 23, 40 and 51 percent. In January-April, the 7 percent increase in hatchings amounted to 21 million chicks. Among hatchings in the last few months of 1957 that contributed to the 1958 total of chickens raised, output of egg-type chicks were actually lower than the year before (table 7).

Modest Cut in Turkeys Raised,
Partly Offset by Large Storage Stocks

A drawn-out hatching season has whittled down the expected cut in 1958 turkey production. The number to be raised is now estimated at 78 million, 4 percent less than in 1957. January-June turkey hatchings were down 7 percent, and hatchings in September-December 1957, which also count toward 1958 turkeys raised, were down 30 percent (but only 1.8 million poults, because hatchings then are seasonally small). In July 1.6 million more poults than last year were hatched, and in August 0.5 million.

This late hatch will result in supplies for slaughter in November and later being above last year's levels, but slaughter until then will be less than in 1957.

Since mid-March prices to farmers have been a few cents per pound above 1957. In mid-August, the 1958 price was 24.9 cents per pound, compared with 24.6 cents the month before and 22.7 cents in mid-August 1957. At mid-August, 1958 the U. S. average turkey price was higher than any mid-month price in the last half of 1957. But in view of the later hatch this year, there is less chance for a seasonal turkey price rise this year except as the rise reflects superior weight and finish of older birds. Last year the December price was 2.3 cents higher than the July-August average for that year. In 1956 the price declined 0.6 cent from mid-summer to December; in 1955 it went up 0.9 cent (table 9).

Heavy storage stocks are holding down current turkey prices, despite the smaller slaughter than last year to date. Through August 1958 slaughter in commercial plants was 9 percent below 1957, a reduction equivalent to about 20 million pounds, ready-to-cook. But use from the storage stocks early in the

year exceeded 1957 by an even greater margin, practically offsetting the entire reduction in slaughter to date.

In the first 4 or 5 months of 1958 the reduction in storage stocks exceeded 1957, indicating larger per capita consumption of turkey than in the same months of 1957. But since these first 4 or 5 months in 1958, use from storage has declined compared with years immediately preceding. The net into-storage movement began in late July in the 35 important cities that report weekly. This pattern was about the same in 1957 and 1956, years of record turkey production, but the 1958 into-storage movement was earlier than in other preceding years (table 13).

In view of the large late hatch of turkeys this year, and the continuing large storage stocks, holiday supplies will be fully ample to meet demands at little change in price. If prospective storers consider the relatively unfavorable outcome of 1957-58 storage operations and consequently hold over no more turkeys than last year, the quantity consumed per person in 1958 may come close to the record 1957 average consumption of 5.9 pounds per person.

Department of Agriculture Buys Turkeys

On July 18 the Department of Agriculture announced a purchase program for turkeys to be used in schools participating in the National School Lunch Program. Weekly purchases of frozen ready-to-cook turkeys, in the range of 18 to 24 pounds each, were begun in the last week of July. Details of these purchases are shown in table 14. Contracts let through September 10 covered 11 million pounds of turkey, in the weight class 18-24 pounds per bird, which would be principally toms. Total commercial slaughter of tom turkeys in the same period was about 40 million pounds ready-to-cook, and total commercial turkey slaughter about 100 million pounds.

The last preceding USDA turkey purchase program, in the fall of 1956, was intended to help stabilize producer prices. About 25 million pounds of turkey were bought under that program, for which the details are shown in table 15.

Broiler Prices Break Early; Large Supplies for Rest of Year

Broiler prices declined earlier than usual in 1958 and at a time when seasonal demand is normally expected to remain strong. Through June, broiler prices had been well above 1957, despite a record large production. A price reaction began in July, when prices to farmers averaged 19.4 cents per pound, down from 21.0 in June. In August the U. S. average price was 18.0 cents, and more recent daily prices in important producing areas have been 16 and 15 cents. Last year the August price was 20.7 cents, the September price 18.1. Lower prices in the last 3 or 4 months of the year are a standard pattern in the industry; last year the October-December average of 16.8 cents contrasted with 20.9 cents in June-August.

Earlier in 1958, broiler prices had been sustained at profitable levels by relatively high prices for red meats, which increased demand for broilers. Also, broiler marketings at that time were smaller than would have been indicated by earlier placements, because extraordinary mortality and slow growth limited sales of flocks in the winter of 1957-58. As a result of the favorable prices, producers increased their broiler chick placements, relative to the year before. In May, for example, the placements were 22 percent above May 1957, indicating correspondingly increased slaughter in July; June placements were up 22 percent, and August 13 percent. The rate of increase has since slackened, but in early September was running 13 percent above 1957. With 8 percent more eggs in incubators in early September than last year at the same time, the increase from May to date assures large supplies of broilers throughout 1958. However, the increase is not uniform among the important States, and in Georgia, the largest State, August placements were slightly below 1957. For the same month, U. S. placements were up 12 percent. Table 17 indicates that for the year as a whole production is likely to be up about 16 percent from the 1.5 billion birds produced in 1957.

Although monthly broiler supplies for the rest of the year will decline relative to the month immediately preceding, demand for broilers also appears to decline at this season. Supplies of red meats will increase seasonally, and with cooler weather consumers are less concerned about the "top-of-stove cooking" and "light-meal" aspects of broilers and other young chickens. Although the volume of broilers now growing is declining seasonally, the reduction is not likely to be sufficient to prompt any sustained price increase from the average of early September.

An unusually strong demand for chicks in January-June was reflected in chick placements 16 percent larger than in the same 1957 period. Chick prices in May and June, at 14 cents each on the DelMarVa Peninsula, were 3 to 4 cents above the year before. As a result, owners of hatchery supply flocks anticipated good markets for hatching eggs. Perhaps as a consequence of similar prices in other areas, 10 primary breeders reported a 29 percent increase in sales of pullets for hatching supply flocks through July this year. Such birds are uneconomic producers of table eggs, though their output is often diverted to that market when hatchery outlets at premium prices are unavailable for the eggs. The increase in sales by prime breeders suggests an abundance of hatching eggs and chicks extending at least a few months into 1959. Chick prices have declined about 2 cents each from April-May 1958 to August 1. In 1957, the comparable price change was an increase of a cent and a half.

Seasonal Egg Price Adjusters for 1958-59

Monthly factors for the seasonal adjustment of egg prices received by farmers, for use through June 1959, are shown in table 18. The seasonally-adjusted prices are used in the computation of the percentage which monthly egg prices bear to the parity price. The seasonal adjustment is also useful for comparing egg prices in different seasons of the year.

The highest factor for the 12 months beginning this July is 109 percent (of the annual average) for October. This peak represents a considerable decline from the 121 peak 10 years ago (in December) and also the 112 last October. The monthly adjustments on the low side are not so sharply different from preceding years, with 91 for both May and June the lowest in 1958-59. But the low point is coming later in the spring, as shown in table 2.

These factors are based primarily upon the relation of the 5-year average price for the given month to the 5-year average price for all 12 months. This latter average covers the most recent 60-month period which can be centered upon the month in question. The ratios of these averages are adjusted also to maintain consistency and continuity in the series, and to avoid abrupt changes due to unusual circumstances in any of the individual years included in the 5-year base.

Table 1.--Egg prices, selected dates, 1958, with comparisons

Item	1956		1957				1958		
	Sept. 14	Oct. 15	July 15	Aug. 15	Sept. 16	Oct. 15	July 15	Aug. 15	Sept. 11
	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents
U. S. average price received by farmers, per dozen	38.6	38.1	32.0	36.4	40.3	43.2	35.9	36.9	
Iowa, prices received by farmers, per dozen 1/:									
Grade A, Large	38-40	36-37	27-28	33-35	37	44-46	29-31	30-31	42-45
Grade A, Medium	24-25	22-23	21-23	23-26	25-28	28-30	24-26	24-25	28-30
New York, wholesale prices Midwestern, mixed colors, per dozen:									
Fancy heavy-weights	49½-50½	46½-47½	38½-41	42-43½	45-46	54-56	38½-40	39½-41½	54-55½
Extras 1, medium	36-37	30-31	33-34	35-36	38½-39½	37-38	32½-33½	32½-33½	40½-42½
Nearby whites, per dozen:									
Extra fancy, heavy-weights	56-59	48½-50½	44½-47	47½-51½	49-53	57½-61	39-42	46-50	60-63
Medium	38½-39½	32½-33½	39-40	37-38	40-43	43½-44½	32½-33½	32-33½	46-47½
Small (pullets)	24½-25	26-27	28½-29	26-27	27½-28½	30½-31	29½-31	26-27	25½-26½
Frozen egg, per pound 2/:									
Mixed whole egg	30½-33	28½-32	25-27	26½-27½	3/28-29½	28½-30	29½-31½	27½-29	28¼-29½
Yolk 4/	52-54	53-54	52-53	50-52	3/52-53	53-54	61-63	60-62	60-62
Albumen	20-23½	18½-23	11-12	11¾-13	3/13½-14½	14-15	11½-13	10¾-11½	11-12
Chicago: Mixed colors, extras, large, per dozen:									
Wholesale price 5/	47½-48	42½-43	34½-35½	38½-39	43½-44	49-50	---	---	---
f.o.b. price 5/	---	---	---	---	---	---	35½-36½	37-37½	49½-50
Future contracts: September delivery (closing price)	36.00	39.15	33.80	33.65	32.30	40.15	36.85	31.70	40.70
San Francisco, wholesale price, per dozen:									
Grade A, Large	51-52	48-49	39-40	48-49	49-50	52-53	6/44-48	6/48-52	6/56-60
Grade A, Medium	40-41	41-42	32-33	42-43	42-43	45-46	6/36-40	6/41-45	6/43-48

1/ "Mostly," except where otherwise stated.
2/ Carlots. Weekly price.
3/ Week ending Sept. 13.
4/ Highest color quoted.
5/ Closest comparable price after changes, June 23 reporting basis.
6/ Price to retailers and distributors.

Table 2.-- Eggs: U. S. average price, per dozen, received by farmers at mid-month, 1940 to date

Year	Jan. 15	Feb. 15	Mar. 15	Apr. 15	May 15	June 15	July 15	Aug. 15	Sept. 15	Oct. 15	Nov. 15	Dec. 15	Weighted average
	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents
1940	18.3	20.2	15.4	15.0	15.1	14.4	16.4	17.2	21.0	23.7	26.2	26.8	18.0
1941	19.7	16.8	16.4	19.7	20.1	23.2	25.6	26.8	30.3	31.8	35.5	34.1	23.5
1942	31.3	27.5	25.8	25.6	26.5	27.4	29.5	32.2	34.7	37.4	38.9	39.7	30.0
1943	39.0	34.2	34.0	33.7	34.2	35.2	36.3	38.8	41.6	45.2	47.1	44.9	37.1
1944	34.6	31.9	30.1	27.1	27.2	28.1	31.2	33.0	35.4	38.8	43.4	44.5	32.5
1945	41.0	35.8	33.1	33.0	33.7	35.8	37.9	40.8	39.6	42.6	47.1	48.2	37.7
1946	41.1	32.6	32.1	31.3	32.8	33.5	37.1	39.1	44.5	51.5	47.8	47.0	37.6
1947	41.3	38.6	40.1	40.8	40.7	41.5	45.7	47.5	53.0	55.3	53.4	58.7	45.3
1948	48.7	45.0	42.6	42.6	41.5	43.4	45.8	49.2	51.4	54.7	58.3	52.8	47.2
1949	47.1	41.8	41.2	42.3	43.4	44.1	45.4	48.8	52.4	51.4	47.0	40.5	45.2
1950	31.2	29.6	31.6	30.9	29.6	30.1	34.3	38.0	40.4	43.2	45.8	57.7	36.3
1951	42.6	41.4	43.7	43.2	45.2	44.7	46.6	49.6	55.0	55.6	56.5	51.1	47.7
1952	40.5	34.7	34.0	35.2	34.2	35.7	43.3	48.2	48.7	50.3	51.9	46.6	41.6
1953	45.8	42.0	44.7	45.5	45.9	45.7	47.7	50.2	51.4	53.2	49.7	48.5	47.7
1954	46.3	45.7	38.7	35.0	33.1	33.0	34.5	37.4	33.8	32.4	33.9	32.7	36.6
1955	32.2	39.6	39.8	35.9	33.8	33.8	35.2	39.4	43.8	43.0	43.4	47.2	38.9
1956	46.6	40.2	39.6	38.5	37.6	36.4	36.6	36.9	38.6	38.1	37.2	37.1	38.7
1957	33.2	32.7	30.4	30.4	28.8	28.9	32.0	36.4	40.3	43.2	45.4	44.2	35.2
1958	38.9	36.6	40.8	37.4	35.5	33.9	35.9	36.9					

Table 3.-- Shell eggs: Storage stocks, first-of-month, United States, 1950 to date; weekly, 35 cities, October 1957 to date

Year	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
	1,000 cases	1,000 cases	1,000 cases	1,000 cases	1,000 cases	1,000 cases	1,000 cases	1,000 cases	1,000 cases	1,000 cases	1,000 cases	1,000 cases
	(a) Monthly, United States											
1950	110	380	735	1,296	2,147	3,412	3,667	3,163	2,568	1,558	502	61
1951	34	75	159	309	973	2,083	2,427	2,270	1,615	958	527	230
1952	141	238	942	1,596	2,184	3,184	3,357	2,728	2,169	1,709	1,000	393
1953	153	120	248	375	816	1,431	1,513	1,199	827	494	288	137
1954	89	73	133	442	728	1,348	1,639	1,435	1,031	833	636	325
1955	193	235	258	479	1,183	2,088	2,292	2,244	1,680	1,140	804	333
1956	111	299	306	309	638	1,200	1,453	1,259	1,020	727	616	525
1957	320	328	519	932	1,208	1,719	1,812	1,507	1,174	895	552	302
1958	209	171	105	79	322	705	852	727	506			
	(b) Weekly, 35 cities											
Weeks	1958									1957		
First	169	126	70	47	294	542	707	600	384	728	452	234
Second	162	113	50	69	371	692	686	569		659	378	213
Third	152	96	42	110	438	710	671	530		600	335	188
Fourth	143	94	44	194	517	713	640	488		522	284	174
Fifth			40		572			434			254	

Table 4.-- Frozen egg: Storage stocks, first-of-month, United States, 1950 to date; weekly, 35 cities, October 1957 to date

Year	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.
	(a) Monthly, United States											
1950	54	55	73	117	155	180	188	175	155	133	104	76
1951	47	31	33	62	109	163	190	191	176	151	122	95
1952	67	53	61	84	111	146	166	163	144	124	95	72
1953	50	35	42	65	99	132	160	153	133	110	87	61
1954	42	38	42	92	136	167	186	181	161	139	118	95
1955	75	66	63	84	126	171	194	195	180	155	128	101
1956	74	51	42	61	95	140	172	177	168	152	132	109
1957	87	75	66	78	108	140	167	177	165	147	124	99
1958	75	64	60	53	68	101	134	140	134			
	(b) Weekly, 35 cities											
Weeks	1958									1957		
First	44	39	36	29	34	51	66	70	65	82	72	56
Second	43	39	35	29	37	56	68	69		80	68	52
Third	41	38	33	30	41	60	69	68		77	65	49
Fourth	39	38	31	31	44	62	70	68		75	62	47
Fifth			30		47			67			59	

Table 5.--Number of layers on farms, rate of egg production, and total egg output on farms, monthly data, January 1954 to date

Item and year	Unit	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
						(a) Monthly average data							
Average number of layers on hand													
1954	Mil.	343	334	322	309	295	283	276	283	307	331	342	345
1955	do.	338	328	319	306	294	283	276	280	299	321	331	334
1956	do.	331	325	315	305	294	285	281	288	306	323	332	336
1957	do.	332	324	314	303	293	282	277	283	298	311	318	321
1958	do.	317	311	304	295	287	280	278	283				
Eggs laid per 100 layers													
1954	Eggs	1,484	1,498	1,837	1,819	1,847	1,672	1,579	1,475	1,366	1,384	1,376	1,482
1955	do.	1,548	1,491	1,800	1,844	1,900	1,751	1,672	1,537	1,417	1,444	1,412	1,492
1956	do.	1,562	1,586	1,832	1,839	1,891	1,745	1,694	1,585	1,452	1,492	1,459	1,559
1957	do.	1,602	1,539	1,861	1,872	1,918	1,772	1,714	1,613	1,481	1,478	1,447	1,574
1958	do.	1,654	1,530	1,797	1,862	1,934	1,794	1,751	1,650				
Total monthly egg production													
1954	Mil. cs.	14.2	13.9	16.4	15.6	15.1	13.1	12.1	11.6	11.7	12.7	13.1	14.2
1955	do.	14.5	13.6	15.9	15.7	15.5	13.8	12.8	11.9	11.8	12.9	13.0	13.8
1956	do.	14.4	14.3	16.0	15.6	15.5	13.8	13.2	12.7	12.3	13.4	13.4	14.5
1957	do.	14.8	13.8	16.2	15.8	15.6	13.9	13.2	12.7	12.3	12.8	12.8	14.0
1958	do.	14.6	13.2	15.2	15.3	15.4	14.0	13.5	13.0				
						(b) First-of-month data							
Number of layers on hand													
1954	Mil.	347	339	328	316	301	289	277	274	291	323	339	346
1955	do.	344	332	325	312	300	287	278	274	285	314	328	335
1956	do.	333	329	321	309	300	289	281	281	294	317	329	334
1957	do.	337	328	320	309	298	287	277	277	289	307	315	321
1958	do.	321	314	307	300	290	283	278	279	287			
Eggs laid per 100 layers													
1954	Eggs	46.8	48.9	58.1	60.4	60.8	58.3	53.1	48.6	46.5	44.5	44.8	46.9
1955	do.	48.7	51.1	55.4	60.7	62.3	60.3	56.6	51.2	47.9	46.6	46.7	47.6
1956	do.	48.7	52.0	57.4	60.8	61.8	60.3	56.1	53.2	49.0	47.8	48.5	48.8
1957	do.	51.7	51.7	58.2	61.9	63.0	60.8	57.3	53.3	50.7	48.0	47.4	49.1
1958	do.	52.4	54.2	55.1	60.8	63.3	61.5	58.1	54.9	51.6			
Daily rate of egg production													
1954	Mil. eggs	162	166	191	191	183	169	147	133	135	144	152	162
1955	do.	168	170	180	190	187	173	158	140	137	146	153	159
1956	do.	162	171	184	188	185	174	157	150	144	152	160	163
1957	do.	174	169	186	191	188	175	159	148	147	148	149	158
1958	do.	168	170	169	182	184	174	161	153	148			

Table 6.--Factors indicative of number of layers to be on hand January 1, 1959

(a) Fall pullet numbers and derivation

Year	Chickens raised	Sexed pullets as a percentage of farmers' chick purchases	Computed number of pullets among chickens raised 1/	Pullets on hand: October 1: Laying	October 1: Not yet laying	October 1: Total	January 1 following: Laying	January 1 following: Not yet laying	January 1 following: Total
	Mil.	Pct.	Mil.	Mil.	Mil.	Mil.	Mil.	Mil.	Mil.
1946	738	22	435	126	199	325	244	37	281
1947	719	26	439	131	195	326	243	35	278
1948	615	30	387	125	176	301	227	31	258
1949	705	31	444	140	185	324	255	32	287
1950	620	32	397	141	142	283	229	29	258
1951	623	33	399	143	144	288	231	30	261
1952	561	37	370	142	117	259	215	23	238
1953	548	42	372	154	112	266	231	24	255
1954	540	49	383	168	104	273	233	25	257
1955	462	50	333	148	94	242	211	27	239
1956	479	53	349	167	92	259	217	32	250
1957 2/	397	60	305	144	83	227	193	31	224
1958	436	3/61	340						

(b) Fall hen numbers and derivations

	Layers and potential layers on hand, January 1: Hens	Layers and potential layers on hand, January 1: Total, including pullets	Hens on hand: October 1	Hens on hand: January 1 following
	Mil.	Mil.	Mil.	Mil.
1946	151	473	202	150
1947	150	431	198	140
1948	140	418	193	141
1949	141	399	184	137
1950	137	424	189	141
1951	141	399	179	136
1952	136	397	172	135
1953	135	373	156	116
1954	116	371	154	111
1955	111	369	166	122
1956	122	360	150	119
1957 2/	120	369	164	128
1958	128	352		

1/ Computed with allowance for pullets among straight-run chicks bought.
2/ Preliminary
3/ Intentions.

Table 7.--Monthly hatchings of replacement-type chicks, available data, 1954 to date, and replacement-type eggs in incubators, August 1, 1958, and chickens raised, United States, 1954 to date

Month and item	Unit	1954	1955	1956	1957	1958 1/
Hatchings						
January	Million		32.9	39.3	30.5	34.4
February	do.		71.2	84.0	56.3	61.9
March	do.	2/201.5	148.8	149.5	109.4	114.6
April	do.	2/193.9	163.9	159.4	129.4	136.1
May	do.	2/111.5	107.9	108.8	90.8	111.6
June	do.	2/ 33.9	32.7	34.7	27.9	39.1
July	do.		14.9	15.4	11.9	17.9
August	do.		12.6	14.3	10.2	3/(123)
September	do.		14.1	14.8	12.3	
October	do.		16.6	17.1	13.0	
November	do.		15.5	14.7	12.2	
December	do.		17.5	15.9	15.7	
Total, calendar year	do.		648.6	667.9	519.5	
Total, 12 months ending July of given year	do.			667.4	533.0	579.0
Chickens raised, calendar year	do.	539.9	461.9	478.6	396.6	435.8
Pullets on hand, January 1 following						
(a) Number	do.	257.2	238.6	249.6	224.2	
(b) As a percentage of chickens raised	Percent	48	52	52	57	
Sexed pullets as a percentage of farmers' chick purchases	do.	49	50	53	60	4/61

1/ Preliminary.
2/ Derived.
3/ Eggs in incubators first of month as a percentage of previous year.
4/ February intentions.

Table 8.--Chickens raised, and pullets not yet of laying age on farms, September 1, by regions, 1956 to date

Region	Chickens raised				Pullets not yet of laying age, September 1			
	1956	1957	1958 1/	1958 as a percentage of 1957	1956	1957	1958	1958 as a percentage of 1957
	Mil.	Mil.	Mil.	Pct.	Mil.	Mil.	Mil.	Pct.
North Atlantic	74.0	62.4	65.4	105	23.6	20.1	21.0	105
East North Central	92.4	71.0	77.0	109	31.8	26.6	29.3	110
West North Central	134.3	106.4	119.6	112	55.2	48.4	53.2	110
South Atlantic	53.8	51.2	58.5	114	12.8	12.0	13.7	114
South Central	73.0	59.1	65.4	111	19.0	14.6	16.5	113
Western	51.1	46.6	49.8	107	11.4	10.3	11.2	109
United States	478.6	396.6	435.8	110	153.8	132.0	145.0	110

1/ Preliminary.

Table 9.--Turkey prices, per pound: Selected series, January 1954 to date

Year	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents
	(a) Average farm price, mid-month (live), United States											
1954	33.2	33.9	33.6	33.3	31.0	31.3	28.6	27.8	27.6	27.0	28.5	29.6
1955	27.4	29.5	30.4	29.7	28.9	29.4	29.6	29.5	31.0	31.2	29.8	30.5
1956	30.6	31.0	31.3	30.8	30.6	29.1	28.6	28.3	26.7	25.9	25.9	27.8
1957	26.6	25.3	25.5	25.8	24.2	23.3	21.8	22.7	22.9	22.3	23.5	24.5
1958	22.6	24.7	27.1	26.5	27.1	25.6	24.6	24.9				
	(b) Live, heavy-type young toms, San Joaquin Valley, California, first day of month 1/											
1954	29-30	---	---	---	---	25-26	24-25	24-25	24	22-22½	23-24	23-24
1955	21½-23	---	---	---	---	25-26	28	27	27-29½	29-30	26½-27	26½-27
1956	---	---	---	---	---	30-33	28	25-26	24½-26	25-25½	23-24½	26-28
1957	---	---	---	---	22	20-21	17	18-19	21	19½	18½-19	20-21
1958	17-19	---	---	---	---	22-23	21	23	20-21			
	(c) Live, heavy-type hens, San Joaquin Valley, California, first day of month 1/											
1954	---	---	---	---	---	26	28	28	28	28	31-32	31½-32
1955	---	---	---	---	---	25-26	30	29	30½-31	34½-35	33	31½-32½
1956	---	---	---	---	---	31	27-28	26½	27½-28	27-27½	25½-26	25½-26
1957	---	---	---	---	24	22	20	20-21	21½-22	22	22½	26½
1958	24	---	---	---	---	28	26	26½	24			
	(d) Frozen eviscerated toms, heaviest weights quoted, New York City, first day of month 1/											
1954	51-54	51-54	51½-54½	49½-53½	49-53½	50-52	46½-49	47-49	47-49	46½-49	44-48	43½-46
1955	43-45	44-48	44½-48	46-49	47½-50½	48½-52½	49½-53	51-54	55½-57	50½-54	48-50	47½-48½
1956	53-54	54-55	54-55	57½-58	61½-62	64-65	65-65½	65½-66	60-61	50-52	43-44½	48-49½
1957	47½-49	46-47	44-44½	45-46½	42-44	44-45	40-43	40-41	37½-40½	38-39½	38-40½	40-41½
1958	39-41	38½-41	38½-40½	38½-40½	41-42	42½-43½	42-43	40½-42	39-41			
	(e) Frozen eviscerated hens, 12-14 pounds, New York City, first day of month 1/											
1954	60-61½	60-61½	60-61½	59½-61½	---	---	51-53	45½-48	48-49½	47-49	49½-51	51-53
1955	48-51	48-51	48-50	48-50	51½-53½	51½-53½	50-52	48-49½	49½-51	51-52½	52-54	50½-52
1956	50-51	50-51	49½-51	50-51½	53½-54	52½-53½	47-48½	46-47	43½-44½	44-44½	44-45	44-45½
1957	42-43	39-40	39½-41½	42½-43½	---	42½-43½	---	37-38	37½-38	38-39	40-40½	43-44
1958	43-44	43-44	46-47	50-50½	2/45-46	49-50	45-46	41½-42½	40-41½			
	(f) Live, Beltsville Small Whites, Shenandoah Valley, Virginia and West Virginia, first day of month 1/											
1954	37	35	37	33	30	30-31	27-29½	26-26½	27½-28	29	31-32	32
1955	28	30	30	30	31	31	30½-31	30-30½	30-30½	30½-31	30-31½	28-28½
1956	29½	---	33	30-31	29-30	29	26½-27	26½	25-26	25	25½-26	26-27
1957	26	26-27	26	26	24-25	23-23½	23	23	23-23½	23-23½	24½-25	30
1958	24-25	27	30	30	28½-30	28	25-26	24½-25	24-25			
	(g) Live, heavy-type toms, Iowa, first Friday of month 1/											
1954	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	24½	26	24-24½	23-24	25-25½
1955	20-23	---	23½	---	20-22	---	---	27	29-31	30	26-27	28-28½
1956	---	---	---	---	28-30½	28-30	28	29-30	25-25½	24-25	23-23½	27-30
1957	---	---	---	---	---	---	21	20	19½-20½	20-20½	20	23-24
1958	21	---	---	---	---	---	---	24	22			
	(h) Live, heavy-type hens, Iowa, first Friday of month 1/											
1954	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	28	30¼-30½	29-30	32½-33	35-35½
1955	---	27½	---	---	---	---	32-33	30½-31½	34	37	33	32-34
1956	---	---	---	---	28-28½	27½-28	28	28½	26-26½	27½-28	27-27½	28-28½
1957	---	---	---	---	---	---	21½-22	23	22-23	23-24	25	29-30
1958	---	---	---	---	---	---	27	26½-27	25			

1/ Or next date when quotation is available.
2/ 14-15 pounds.
3/ Beginning 1958, first day of month, or first day thereafter.

Table 10.--Turkeys: Number raised, by breed types, by regions, 1956 to date

Region	Light breeds			Heavy breeds			Total		
	1956	1957	1958	1956	1957	1958	1956	1957	1958
	Million	Million	Million	Million	Million	Million	Million	Million	Million
North Atlantic	0.5	0.3	0.2	4.1	3.7	3.0	4.6	3.9	3.2
East North Central	1.7	1.7	1.5	8.4	9.2	9.2	10.0	11.0	10.7
West North Central	2.6	2.2	2.4	19.0	20.3	21.1	21.6	22.5	23.5
South Atlantic	5.9	6.4	6.1	6.7	7.0	5.7	12.6	13.5	11.9
South Central	1.2	1.2	1.1	7.5	8.0	7.2	8.7	9.2	8.3
Western	1.7	1.5	0.8	17.4	19.6	19.6	19.1	21.1	20.3
United States	13.6	13.4	12.1	63.1	67.8	65.8	76.7	81.2	77.9

Table 11.--Turkeys: Monthly hatchings, by breed types, lagged to indicate prospective month of marketing

Month of marketing	Heavy breed hatchings, 6 months previous				Light breed hatchings, 4 months previous			All turkeys: Sum of preceding colums 1/		
	1956	1957	1958	1959	1956	1957	1958	1956	1957	1958
	Million	Million	Million	Million	Million	Million	Million	Million	Million	Million
January	2.1	3.1	2.9	4.4	0.4	0.4	0.2	2.5	3.5	3.2
February	0.3	0.7	0.7		.3	.3	.2	0.6	1.0	0.8
March	.1	.3	.3		.5	.7	.3	.6	1.0	.6
April	.2	.4	.4		.9	1.1	.6	1.1	1.4	1.0
May	.4	.8	.7		.9	1.0	.8	1.3	1.8	1.6
June	1.0	2.0	1.5		.8	.8	1.0	1.8	2.8	2.5
July	2.0	3.3	2.5		1.0	1.1	1.1	3.0	4.4	2.6
August	4.9	5.8	4.5		1.6	1.6	1.5	6.5	7.4	6.1
September	11.4	12.1	10.6		2.4	2.4	2.1	13.8	14.5	12.7
October	16.3	17.2	15.6		2.5	2.3	2.1	18.7	19.5	17.7
November	17.2	17.6	16.9		2.2	1.9	1.9	19.4	19.5	18.9
December	11.0	11.0	11.7		1.1	0.9		12.1	11.8	

1/ Obtained from unrounded figures. Totals may not add due to rounding.

Table 12.--Turkeys raised, by regions and principal States, 1957 and 1958

Region and State	1957 1/			1958 2/			Difference, 1958 from 1957 3/					
							Number			Percent		
	Heavy breeds	Light breeds	All turkeys	Heavy breeds	Light breeds	All turkeys	Heavy breeds	Light breeds	All turkeys	Heavy breeds	Light breeds	All turkeys
	Million	Million	Million	Million	Million	Million	Thousand	Thousand	Thousand	Percent	Percent	Percent
North Atlantic	3.7	0.3	3.9	3.0	0.2	3.2	- 654	- 85	- 739	-18	-30	-19
Pennsylvania	1.6	.2	1.8	1.2	.2	1.4	- 365	- 43	- 408	-23	-22	-23
East North Central	9.2	1.7	11.0	9.2	1.5	10.7	- 30	- 217	- 247	0	-13	- 2
Ohio	2.4	.6	3.0	2.4	.7	3.1	41	19	60	2	3	2
Indiana	2.2	.5	2.7	2.3	.5	2.8	165	- 58	107	8	-11	4
Wisconsin	2.4	.2	2.6	2.6	.1	2.8	187	- 81	106	8	-40	4
West North Central	20.3	2.2	22.5	21.1	2.4	23.5	754	250	1,004	4	12	4
Minnesota	8.7	1.3	9.9	9.1	1.2	10.3	473	- 75	398	5	- 6	4
Iowa	5.8	.5	6.3	5.9	.9	6.7	56	385	441	1	79	7
Missouri	3.1	.1	3.2	3.0	.2	3.2	- 15	78	63	0	71	2
South Atlantic	7.0	6.4	13.5	5.7	6.1	11.9	-1,317	- 276	-1,593	-19	- 4	-12
Virginia	2.7	4.4	7.1	2.0	4.4	6.4	- 679	- 33	- 712	-25	- 1	-10
South Central	8.0	1.2	9.2	7.2	1.1	8.3	- 792	- 138	- 930	-10	-11	-10
Arkansas	2.1	.3	2.4	2.0	.3	2.4	- 24	0	- 24	- 1	0	- 1
Texas	4.2	.6	4.8	3.4	.4	3.8	- 842	- 159	-1,001	-20	-28	-21
Western	19.6	1.5	21.1	19.6	.8	20.3	- 18	- 758	- 776	0	-49	- 4
Utah	2.5	.2	2.7	2.7	.2	2.9	227	13	240	9	7	9
California	13.6	1.1	14.7	13.4	.4	13.8	- 204	- 676	- 880	- 2	-63	- 6
United States	67.8	13.4	81.2	65.8	12.1	77.9	-2,057	-1,224	-3,281	- 3	- 9	- 4

1/ Revised.
2/ Preliminary.
3/ Computed from unrounded data.

Table 13.--Turkeys: Storage stocks, first-of-month, United States, 1945 to date; weekly, 35 cities, October 1957 to date

Year	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.
	(a) First-of-month, United States											
1945	73	74	63	46	33	29	27	21	18	27	43	76
1946	108	135	135	124	107	97	79	63	55	45	84	117
1947	128	140	126	109	95	86	72	59	45	39	65	86
1948	83	83	70	55	41	33	27	19	13	15	34	47
1949	51	55	51	44	36	33	29	21	21	35	76	107
1950	127	138	129	113	93	77	64	47	37	43	77	108
1951	110	117	101	80	60	48	39	30	25	42	83	109
1952	107	116	107	93	72	63	56	46	44	71	142	158
1953	147	143	118	92	72	60	53	44	46	69	126	135
1954	122	125	109	97	79	69	57	48	51	78	141	447
1955	121	124	111	93	71	60	52	45	48	77	144	129
1956	95	96	83	64	49	41	36	36	53	98	197	194
1957	162	170	150	137	109	98	92	90	102	149	241	220
1958	177	179	154	131	105	84	80	79	102			
	(b) Weekly, 35 cities											
Weeks 1/	1958									1957		
First	99	102	89	71	60	50	42	39	52	80	121	118
Second	103	100	86	67	58	46	39	40		89	131	112
Third	103	97	86	64	55	45	38	42		98	138	99
Fourth	103	93	83	62	52	43	39	46		106	124	94
Fifth			77		50			49			112	

1/ Holdings on sucessive Saturdays of each month.

Table 14.--Turkeys: U.S.D.A. purchases to date, 1958 1/

Contract date, week ending	For delivery in week ending	Purchases		Price, per pound	Cost of purchases	
		For the week	Cumulative		For the week	Cumulative
		Thousand pounds	Thousand pounds	Cents	Thousand dollars	Thousand dollars
August 1	August 25	480	480	35.50-37.00	175	175
8	September 1	1,800	2,280	35.24-37.00	652	827
15	8	3,240	5,520	35.47-37.50	1,168	1,995
22	15	1,260	6,780	35.40-36.74	453	2,448
29	22	1,410	8,190	33.74-34.74	479	2,927
September 5	29	1,350	9,540	32.73-34.37	447	3,374
12	October 6	1,410	10,950	31.59-33.81	455	3,829

1/ Specifications call for frozen ready-to-cook turkeys within weight ranges of 18-24 pounds.

Table 15.--Turkeys: U.S.D.A. purchases, 1956 1/

Contract date, week ending	For delivery in week ending	Purchases		Price, per pound	Cost of purchases	
		For the week	Cumulative		For the week	Cumulative
		Thousand pounds	Thousand pounds	Cents	Thousand dollars	Thousand dollars
September 28	October 15	360	360	37.00-37.50	135	135
October 5	October 22	1,737	2,097	37.23-39.50	665	800
12	29	3,724	5,821	37.32-39.50	1,400	2,200
19	November 5	4,519	10,340	37.32-39.50	1,700	3,900
26	12	6,148	16,488	37.32-39.50	2,400	6,300
November 2	19	4,818	21,306	37.32-39.50	1,800	8,100
9	26	3,366	24,672	37.31¼-39.50	1,300	9,400
16	December 3	2,082	26,754	47.31¼-39.50	860	10,260
23	10	360	2/ 27,114	38.50-39.50	140	10,400

1/ Of these turkeys, 273,500 pounds were in the weight class 8-16 pounds; the remainder were 16-24 pounds each.

2/ Contracts for 1,748 thousand pounds, included in this total, were cancelled at the beginning of December.

Table 16.--Broilers: Prices per pound, selected areas, January 1954 to date

Year	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
	Ct.	Ct.	Ct.	Ct.	Ct.	Ct.	Ct.	Ct.	Ct.	Ct.	Ct.	Ct.
	(a) U. S. mid-month average price received by farmers, live											
1954	24.2	22.6	23.5	24.3	23.7	24.4	25.4	24.9	23.0	21.0	20.1	19.2
1955	24.4	25.4	29.7	28.4	27.0	27.2	26.5	26.9	25.2	22.0	21.2	19.4
1956	20.6	21.4	21.9	20.8	21.1	20.2	21.4	19.6	18.2	17.2	16.8	16.6
1957	18.0	19.5	19.5	18.8	19.3	20.7	21.4	20.7	18.1	17.0	16.9	16.4
1958	19.9	20.3	21.5	19.3	20.1	21.0	19.4	18.0				
	(b) Del-Mar-Va, average price, live 1/											
1954	22.2	20.9	21.9	25.1	21.8	24.7	25.3	25.0	24.1	18.0	21.8	19.1
1955	25.1	26.9	29.8	32.0	25.2	28.1	28.0	28.0	26.9	20.8	18.7	19.7
1956	21.5	22.9	22.9	20.9	21.2	19.1	22.9	19.3	18.4	18.1	16.4	17.2
1957	18.1	20.8	21.9	20.2	19.1	21.8	22.1	21.8	19.2	17.0	16.7	16.1
1958	18.8	20.3	22.3	19.2	21.4	22.3	20.7	18.5	16.2			
	(c) North Georgia, price at farm, live 1/											
1954	22.0	22.0	23.3	23.8	21.4	22.2	24.5	25.2	22.6	18.2	21.0	18.7
1955	22.0	23.7	28.1	29.9	25.3	26.5	24.3	26.0	25.0	21.0	21.1	18.7
1956	21.3	21.1	21.0	19.6	20.0	18.2	21.4	18.8	16.6	17.0	16.0	15.1
1957	16.4	19.6	19.8	19.1	17.8	20.1	20.2	20.0	17.6	15.8	15.6	16.2
1958	17.7	19.2	21.0	18.2	19.8	20.0	19.2	17.0	15.4			
	(d) San Joaquin Valley of California, country paying price 1/											
1954	25.4	26.5	25.0	24.5	24.1	28.4	25.5	28.5	24.6	24.0	24.2	21.5
1955	22.4	26.0	30.6	33.0	27.5	30.0	28.0	29.0	28.1	23.8	21.0	20.7
1956	21.1	22.1	21.1	21.6	22.0	22.0	23.5	23.0	21.5	18.6	16.4	17.0
1957	22.8	19.5	24.6	19.2	19.6	22.0	22.0	22.3	20.6	16.5	16.6	16.8
1958	18.9	21.9	23.6	20.6	21.6	22.0	21.9	19.4	17.6			
	(e) Chicago, eviscerated broilers, wholesale 1/											
1954	39.7	37.4	39.1	39.2	36.1	37.7	40.5	41.1	37.6	32.5	35.4	32.5
1955	35.8	38.8	45.2	47.2	41.0	42.6	39.8	42.2	32.6	35.2	34.2	32.2
1956	36.3	35.9	35.8	33.6	33.6	32.0	35.2	32.5	30.1	28.6	27.8	26.3
1957	29.3	33.8	33.6	32.5	29.4	33.9	33.4	33.6	30.5	27.5	26.8	27.2
1958	29.2	32.2	35.0	31.5	33.9	34.2	2/32.8	29.8	27.1			
	(f) New York, N. Y. dressed broilers, 2½ lb., wholesale 1/											
1954	30.1	28.4	28.6	32.2	29.3	30.6	31.0	30.2	30.2	25.0	26.7	25.0
1955	31.7	32.7	35.6	37.0	31.2	35.0	34.1	33.0	33.4	25.9	26.8	24.2
1956	27.4	27.0	27.4	25.0	26.6	26.8	28.1	24.8	24.2	22.8	21.1	22.2
1957	24.2	25.2	26.8	25.4	24.6	26.5	27.1	27.4	26.8	22.8	23.8	22.8
1958	24.6	26.6	27.3	26.6	28.0	28.3	2/27.1	23.8	22.5			

1/ First full week of month. 2/ 4 day average.

Table 17.--Broilers: Quarterly placements by reporting States, October 1956 to date

State	Quarters							
	1956	1957				1958		
	Oct.-Dec.	Jan.-Mar.	Apr.-June	July-Sept.	Oct.-Dec.	Jan.-Mar.	Apr.-June	July-Sept. 1/
	Mil.	Mil.	Mil.	Mil.	Mil.	Mil.	Mil.	Mil.
Maine	12.0	12.3	13.3	12.6	12.3	12.9	14.8	
Connecticut	6.3	6.9	7.8	7.3	6.8	7.4	8.7	
Pennsylvania	8.0	9.4	10.6	9.6	9.5	10.2	12.3	
Delaware	21.6	26.0	25.6	24.2	23.1	24.6	27.6	
Maryland	15.1	19.7	21.4	20.6	19.5	21.4	24.0	
Virginia	13.4	16.3	17.1	17.2	14.9	15.3	19.0	
West Virginia	5.2	6.2	7.2	7.0	5.3	6.5	9.1	
North Carolina	21.9	25.6	30.1	28.4	27.3	31.4	36.2	
South Carolina	3.9	3.9	4.4	4.3	4.2	4.4	4.9	
Georgia	59.1	66.5	77.2	73.0	65.6	77.6	92.2	
Florida	2.7	2.9	2.9	2.9	2.6	2.9	3.6	
Alabama	21.7	27.4	29.9	27.4	27.3	31.8	40.7	
Indiana	8.9	10.3	12.5	11.8	10.8	11.5	13.5	
Illinois	1.8	2.2	2.8	2.1	1.7	1.9	2.6	
Missouri	5.8	7.6	8.0	7.5	6.3	8.1	10.6	
Arkansas	22.7	29.6	32.3	29.6	27.6	34.0	40.7	
Mississippi	14.0	17.7	18.9	18.1	16.6	19.4	24.6	
Louisiana	3.6	4.5	4.9	4.8	3.9	5.3	6.4	
Texas	23.3	27.6	27.8	25.2	23.0	29.4	36.7	
Washington	2.4	3.0	3.8	3.1	2.5	3.8	4.8	
Oregon	1.8	2.0	2.3	1.9	1.6	2.1	2.5	
California	10.6	11.5	12.6	11.5	10.9	12.6	14.4	
Total, 22 States 2/	285.7	339.1	373.3	350.0	323.1	374.7	449.8	382.

1/ Partly estimated.

2/ Totals obtained from unrounded data.

Table 18.--Eggs: Prices, farm (including seasonal adjustment), retail, and per capita dissapearance, monthly, January 1955 to date

Month	U. S. average price received by farmers, per dozen		Seasonal adjustment factor 1/	U. S. average retail price, per dozen (AMS)	Farm-retail price spread 2/	Civilian per capita disappearance, shell only 3/
	As reported	Seasonally adjusted				
	Cents	Cents	Percent	Cents	Cents	Eggs
1955						
January	32.2	34.3	94	50.1	16.9	31.2
February	39.6	46.0	86	57.8	17.1	27.9
March	39.8	45.2	88	59.0	18.1	30.9
April	35.9	40.3	89	53.3	16.3	28.3
May	33.8	37.6	90	51.6	16.8	28.4
June	33.8	37.1	91	51.5	16.7	26.8
July	35.2	35.2	100	55.0	18.7	27.2
August	39.5	36.6	108	61.4	20.8	27.3
September	43.8	39.5	111	64.4	19.3	27.2
October	43.0	37.7	114	64.1	19.9	29.3
November	43.4	38.1	114	62.4	17.7	29.9
December	47.2	42.5	111	66.2	17.7	31.2
1956						
January	46.6	49.6	94	65.5	17.5	30.7
February	40.2	46.7	86	58.0	16.6	28.8
March	39.6	44.5	89	58.1	17.3	31.0
April	38.5	42.8	90	56.5	16.8	28.5
May	37.6	41.3	91	55.6	17.0	27.5
June	36.4	39.6	92	54.0	16.6	25.7
July	36.6	37.0	99	55.9	18.3	27.5
August	36.9	34.2	108	56.8	18.8	26.9
September	38.6	34.8	111	58.9	19.1	27.0
October	38.1	33.7	113	59.5	20.3	28.9
November	37.2	32.9	113	57.5	19.2	29.1
December	37.1	33.7	110	56.2	18.0	31.2
1957						
January	33.2	35.3	94	52.0	17.8	30.3
February	32.7	37.3	88	52.5	18.8	27.0
March	30.4	34.0	90	49.5	18.2	30.0
April	30.4	33.4	91	48.9	17.6	28.1
May	28.8	31.9	91	47.2	17.5	27.4
June	28.9	31.5	92	46.0	16.2	25.5
July	32.0	32.3	99	51.9	18.9	26.4
August	36.4	33.6	108	56.0	18.5	26.5
September	40.3	36.0	111	61.0	19.5	26.0
October	43.2	38.4	112	65.3	20.8	27.3
November	45.4	41.2	110	64.3	17.5	27.5
December	44.2	41.1	108	63.9	18.5	29.5
1958						
January	38.9	40.5	96	59.3	19.2	29.0
February	36.6	40.2	91	55.7	18.0	25.1
March	40.8	44.8	91	61.9	19.9	29.2
April	37.4	41.1	91	57.2	18.7	27.2
May	35.5	39.0	91	54.9	18.3	4/26.5
June	33.9	36.8	92	52.9	18.0	4/24.7
July	35.9	37.4	96	55.3	18.3	4/26.0
August	36.9	34.8	106			

1/ For September 1958 and the following months through June 1959, the seasonal adjustment factors are, respectively: 108, 109, 108, 107, 99, 97, 95, 93, 91, and 91.

2/ Includes allowance for breakage and loss.

3/ Revised on basis of "unadjusted" population.

4/ Partly estimated.

Table 19.- Eggs: Supply and distribution

(including data for cover chart)

Item	As initially reported		Converted to uniform units	Percentage distribution
	Unit	Quantity		
			Million dozen	Percent
Supply			5,391	100
Production	Million eggs	64,679	5,390	100
On farms	do.	60,448	5,037	93
In backyard flocks	do.	4,231	353	7
Imports	Thousand dozen	1,429	1	1/
Disposition			5,391	100
Eggs used for hatching	Million dozen	250	250	5
Exports	do.	32	32	1
Dried egg	Thousand pounds	103,413	81	1
Liquid egg 2/	do.	371,317	289	5
Balance, used in shell form	Million dozen	4,739	4,739	88
Peak holdings in storage				
Shell	Thousand cases	1,812	54	1
Frozen	Thousand pounds	176,721	138	3
Eaten on farms where produced	Million eggs	5,468	456	8

1/ Smaller than 0.05.

2/ Exclusive of that later dried.

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/ E P